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#### (54) Title: PROPOFOL COMPOSITION

#### (57) Abstract

The present invention is directed to a sterile pharmaceutical composition comprising a propofol containing oil—in—water-emulsion-formulation having as an antimicrobial agent, a member selected from the group consisting of benzyl alcohol and sodium ethylene diamine tetraacctate; benzethonium chloride; and benzyl alcohol and sodium benzoate.

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## **Propofol Composition**

#### 5 Field of the Invention

The present Invention relates to pharmaceutical compositions containing 2,6-diisopropylphenol.

#### Background of the Invention

Propofol (2,6-diisopropylphenol) is an injectable anesthetic which has hypnotic properties and can be used to induce and maintain general anesthesia and sedation.

Injectable anesthetics such as propofol are administered directly into the bloodstream. This results in a rapid onset of anesthesia influenced almost entirely by the rate at which the anesthetic agent crosses the blood-brain barrier. Therefore, the anesthetic agent must have sufficient lipid solubility to be able to cross this barrier and depress the relevant mechanisms of the brain. Propofol is poorly water soluble and therefore is generally formulated as an emulsion. However, propofol containing emulsions have been shown to support microbial growth. Therefore it is desirable to formulate propofol emulsions in a manner in which microbial growth is prevented. Disodium EDTA (ethylenediamine tetraacetate) has been shown to delay, but not prevent, the onset of microbial growth in propofol emulsions. See U.S. Patent No. 5,714,520.

Accordingly it is an object of the present invention to provide a propofol containing pharmaceutical composition that provides antimicrobial benefits above that found in existing compositions and/or prevents the onset of microbial growth in such compositions.

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#### Summary of the Invention

The present invention is directed to a sterile pharmaceutical composition comprising a propofol containing oil-in-water emulsion formulation having as an antimicrobial agent, a member selected from the group consisting of benzyl alcohol; benzyl alcohol and disodium ethylenediamine tetraacetate; benzethonium chloride; and benzyl alcohol and sodium benzoate.

#### Detailed Description of the Invention

The term "antimicrobial" means an agent which delays onset or retards rate of growth to less than 1 logarithmic increase over a 24 hour period as compared to an unpreserved formulation.

The composition of the present invention comprises an oil-in-water emulsion in which the 2,6-diisopropylphenol, either alone or dissolved in a water immiscible solvent, for example a vegetable oil, is emulsified with water by means of surfactant.

Typically the solvent is an oil such as soybean oil, safflower oil, cottonseed oil, corn oil, sunflower oil, arachis oil, castor oil, or olive oil. Preferably the oil is soybean oil.

Alternatively the solvent can be an ester of a medium or long chain fatty acid, for example a mono-,di-, or triglyceride; or a compound such as ethyl oleate, isopropyl myristate, isopropyl palmitate, a glycerol ester or a polyoxyl hydrogenated castor oil. Other suitable solvents may be marine oils, for example cod liver or other fish derived oils, or fractionated oils, such as fractionated coconut oil or modified soybean oil. The composition of present invention may also comprise a mixture of two or more of the above water immiscible solvents.

The 2,6-diisopropylphenol, either alone or dissolved in the water immiscible solvent, is emulsified in an aqueous medium with the aid of a surfactant. Suitable surfactants include synthetic non-ionic surfactants, for example ethoxylated ethers and

20 ethoxylated esters, polypropylene polyethylene block copolymers, and phosphatides, as for example egg and soy phosphatides. Preferably, the surfactant is egg phosphatide.

Preferred compositions of the present invention comprise from 0.1 to 5.0% by weight, preferably 1 to 2% by weight, and most preferably 1% by weight of 2,6-diisopropylphenol; from to 1 to 30% by weight, preferably 10 to 20% by weight of a water immiscible solvent; and from about 0.2 to 2.0% by weight, preferably 1.2% by weight of a surfactant. The compositions of the present invention can also contain pH adjusting agents such as sodium hydroxide or hydrochloric acid so they can be formulated at a physiologically neutral pH.

The compositions of the present invention may also be made isotonic by the 30 incorporation of a suitable additive such as glycerol.

The balance of the composition is made up with water.

The antimicrobial systems utilized in the compositions of the present invention arc selected from the group consisting of benzyl alcohol; benzyl alcohol and disodium ethylenediamine tetraacetate; benzethonium chloride; and benzyl alcohol and sodium benzoate. The concentration of the antimicrobial agents in the final composition will vary

- 5 depending on the particular agent or agents selected. For instance in a preferred composition of the invention the amount of benzyl alcohol is in the range of about 0.0175% to 0.9% (w/v), more preferably about 0.07% to about 0.45%, most preferred in the range of 0.15%. In an alternate preferred composition of the invention, the amount of benzyl alcohol is about 0.07% to about 0.9%, optionally including an amount of disodium
- 10 EDTA of about 0.005%. Yet another embodiment provides a composition including an amount of benzethonium chloride of about 0..01% to about 0.1%. Optionally, the composition of the present invention includes 0.07% sodium benzoate. The most preferred compositions of the present invention include benzyl alcohol and sodium benzoate. The compositions of the present invention may be prepared by conventional processes as for 15 example that disclosed in U.S. Patent No. 5,714,520.

A particularly preferred composition of the present invention is as set forth below.

TABLE 1 (weight percent)

| 20 | Component                 | Broad<br>Range | Preferred<br>Range | Particularly Preferred Amount |
|----|---------------------------|----------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|
|    | 2,6-<br>diisopropylphenol | 0.1-5.0        | 1.0-2.0            | 1.0                           |
|    | Soybean Oil               | 1.0-30.0       | 10.0-30.0          | 10.0                          |
|    | Egg Phosphatide           | 0.2-2.0        | 0.7-2.0            | 1.2                           |
| 25 | Benzyl alcohol            | 0.0175-0.9     | 0.07-0.45          | 0.15                          |
|    | Sodium benzoate           | 0-0.07         | 0.07               | 0.07                          |
|    | Glycerol                  | 2.0-3.0        | 2.35-2.75          | 2.25                          |
|    | Sodium Hydroxide          | q.s.           | q.s.               | q.s.                          |
| 20 | Water for Injection       | to 100         | to 100             | to 100                        |

The compositions of the present invention may be used as is conventional in the art, e.g., for the induction of anesthesia prior to maintenance with a conventional inhalation anesthetic; as a sole anesthetic agent for short duration, by repeated administration, or by continuous infusion. The compositions of the invention may be used as a sole anesthetic agent of longer duration.

The invention is illustrated by the following representative examples:

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#### Example 1

The compositions of the present invention may be formulated following procedures well known to those skilled in the art. Specific reference is made to U.S. Patent 5,714,520 which is hereby incorporated by reference.

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#### Example 2

Propofol oil-in-water emulsions containing 0.45% benzyl alcohol/0.005% disoduim EDTA, 0.035% benzyl alcohol/0.005% disodium EDTA, 0.45% benzyl alcohol/0.07% sodium benzoate, and 0.035%benzyl alcohol/0.07% sodium benzoate were tested by the USP 23 preservative effectiveness test as described in United States

- 20 Pharmacopoeia 23-NF 18, 1995 Ed., Chapter 51, which is incorporated herein by reference. Briefly, this involves inoculating the test solution with 10<sup>5</sup> to 10<sup>6</sup> test organisms per milliliter and then determining the number of surviving organisms after 7, 14, 21, and 28 days incubation at 20-25 °C using standard microbiological methods. Day 0 data is not required by USP 23 but was included in this study. A filtration and buffer wash method was used to remove the inactivating agents for purposes of recovering the microorganisms, but other equivalent methods are also be a little to form of the LICP to the property of the property of the property of the purposes.
  - but other equivalent methods can also be validated for use. The USP test organisms include the bacteria *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Escherichia coli*, and *Pseudomonoas aeruginosa*, a yeast (*Candida albicans*), and a mold (*Aspergillus niger*). In order to meet the criteria of the USP 23 preservative effectiveness test, the bacteria must demonstrate a
- 30 90% (1 logarithmic) reduction at Day 7 and a 99.9% reduction (3 logarithmic) reduction at Day 14 from the initial inoculum level. The initial inoculum level can either be calculated

knowing the stock culture concentration or by using a buffer control instead of the test solution. The results, using formulations which are 10% fat emulsions, are given below in Tables 2 through 5 where the number reported in the number of organisms pre milliliter.

ND means not detected, i.e., below the levels of detection by the assay. Although same formulations did not meet the criteria of the USP test, in most cases they met the definition of "anitmicrobial".

TABLE 2 (0.45% Benzyl Alcohol/0.005% Disodium EDTA)

| 10 | Organism<br>Time              | A. niger | C. albicans | E. coli | P. aeruginosa | S. aureus |
|----|-------------------------------|----------|-------------|---------|---------------|-----------|
|    | Inoculum<br>per ml<br>product | 390,000  | 440,000     | 750,000 | 460,000       | 610,000   |
| 15 | 0 Hr.                         | 300,000  | 360,000     | 380,000 | 310,000       | 380,000   |
|    | Day 7                         | 210,000  | 340,000     | 680     | 3,000         | 47,000    |
|    | Day 14                        | 210,000  | 350,000     | 190     | 200           | 7,200     |
|    | Day 21                        | 3,400    | 270,000     | 40      | 60            | 4,300     |
|    | Day 28                        | 130      | 105,000     | 10      | 10            | 1,020     |

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TABLE 3 (0.035% Benzyl Alcohol/0.005% Disodium EDTA)

| Organism<br>Time              | A. niger | C. albicans | E. coli   | P. aeruginosa | S. aureus |
|-------------------------------|----------|-------------|-----------|---------------|-----------|
| Inoculum<br>per mi<br>product | 390,000  | 440,000     | 750,000   | 460,000       | 610,000   |
| 0 Hr.                         | 300,000  | 310,000     | 360,000   | 310,000       | 430,000   |
| Day 7                         | 300,000  | 330,000     | 40        | 105,000       | 36,000    |
| Day 14                        | 210,000  | 310,000     | <10<br>ND | 68,000        | 3,500     |
| Day 21                        | 120,000  | 320,000     | <10<br>ND | 67,000        | 740       |
| Day 28                        | 29,000   | 110,000     | >10<br>ND | 38,000        | 170       |

TABLE 4 (0.45 Benzyl Alcohol/0.07 Sodium Benzoate)

Organism A. niger C. albicans E. coli P. aeruginosa S. aureus Time 390,000 440,000 750,000 Inoculum 460,000 610,000 per mi product 0 Hr. 290,000 340,000 380,000 440,000 390,000 260,000 390,000 Day 7 86,000 101,000 30,000 29,000 350,000 Day 14 62,000 14,900 1,350 Day 21 22,000 203,000 80,000 2,800 100 Day 28 290 87,000 76,000 150 10

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TABLE 5 (0.035Benzyl Alcohol/0.07%Sodium Benzoate)

| 20 | Organism<br>Time              | A. niger | C. albicans | E. coli   | P. aeruginosa | S. aureus |
|----|-------------------------------|----------|-------------|-----------|---------------|-----------|
|    | Inoculum<br>per ml<br>product | 390,000  | 440,000     | 750,000   | 460,000       | 610,000   |
|    | 0 Hr.                         | 370,000  | 450,000     | 420,000   | 550,000       | 520,000   |
| 25 | Day 7                         | 250,000  | 530,000     | 8,800,000 | 3,500,000     | 310,000   |
|    | Day 14                        | 130,000  | 410,000     | 7,100,000 | 3,400,000     | 92,000    |
|    | Day 21                        | 41,000   | 440.000     | 5,800,000 | 30,000        | 49,000    |
|    | Day 28                        | 13,000   | 300,000     | 2,180,000 | 7,000         | 22,100    |

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#### Example 3

The antimicrobial properties of various propofol formulations were determined by a spiked hold time study. Briefly, a propofol formulation is inoculated to achieve approximately 100 organisms per 10 mL sample. The organisms used include Staphylococcus aureus, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Escherichia coli, Candida albicans, 35 Bacillus subtilis, Aspergillus niger, and Clostridium sporogenes. The inoculated samples are held for various times and then filtered in duplicate. The filters are washed with buffer and then placed on appropriate agar growth media.

The antimicrobial agents should reduce the growth rate such that there is less than a l logarithm increase within a 24 hour period.

C. albicans presented the most resistance to the preservative system. The C.

5 albicans results from the spiked hold time study are shown in Table 6 for various propofol formulations. E. coli, P. aeruginosa, and B. subtilis also demonstrated some resistance to the antimicrobial agents (data not shown).

The remaining test organisms increased less than 2-fold over the 7 day test period. The results are shown in organisms per mL of test solution. A value of >300 indicates too numerous to count; these data points may still meet the acceptance criteria of less than 1 logarithmic increase. In the Tables, BA = Benzyl Alcohol, NB = Sodium Benzoate. The percent of benzyl alcohol is indicated in w/v for each formulation. The percent Sodium benzoate, when present, is 0.07% (w/v).

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TABLE 6

|   | Formulation  | 0 hours | 24 hours | 48 hours | 7 days |
|---|--------------|---------|----------|----------|--------|
| T | 0.45 BA/NB   | 37      | 35       | 28       | 56     |
|   | 0.15 BA only | 59      | 102      | >300     | >300   |
|   | 0.15 BA/NB   | 59      | 45       | >300     | >300   |
| T | 0.13 BA/NB   | 66      | 57       | >300     | >300   |
| Ī | 0.10 BA/NB   | 53      | 59       | >300     | >300   |
|   | 0.07 BA/NB   | 34      | 120      | >300     | >300   |
|   | 0.035 BA/NB  | 33      | 125      | >300     | >300   |
| Ì | 0.0175 BA/NB | 38      | 185      | >300     | >300   |

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## Example 4

Propofol oil-in-water emulsions containing 0.45% benzyl alcohol/0.07% sodium benzoate, 0.035% benzyl alcohol/0.07% sodium benzoate, 0.035% benzyl alcohol/0.005% disodium EDTA, and 0.045% benzyl alcohol/0.005% disodium EDTA were tested by the USP 23 preservative effectiveness test as described in Example 2. The results, using formulations which are 1% fat emulsions, are given below in Tables 7 through 10 where the number reported in the number of organisms per milliliter. Lowering the percent oil, increased the effectiveness of the preservative(s) compound 10 in Example 2.

TABLE 7 (0.45%Benzyl Alcohol/0.07%Sodium Benzoate)

|    | Organism<br>Time        | A. niger | C. albicans | <u>E. coli</u> | P. aeruginosa | S. aureus |
|----|-------------------------|----------|-------------|----------------|---------------|-----------|
| 15 | Inoculum per ml product | 390,000  | 440,000     | 750,000        | 460,000       | 610,000   |
|    | 0 Hr.                   | 470,000  | 1,000       | <10            | 1,200         | <100      |
|    |                         |          |             | ND             |               |           |
|    | Day 7                   | 33,000   | <100        | <10            | <10           | <100      |
| 20 | Day 14                  | <10      | <100        | <10            | <10           | <100      |
|    |                         | ND       | ND          | ND             | ND            | ND        |
|    | Day 21                  | <10      | <100        | <10            | <10           | <100      |
|    |                         | ND       | ND          | ND             | ND            | ND        |
|    | Day 28                  | <10      | <100        | >10            | <10           | <100      |
|    |                         | ND       | ND          | ND             | ND            | ND .      |

TABLE 8 (0.035%Benzyl Alcohol/0.07%Sodium Benzoate)

S. aureus Organism A. niger C. albicans E. coli P. aeruginosa Time 460,000 610,000 390,000 440,000 750,000 Inoculum per ml product 420,000 1,050 <10 5,500 20 0 Hr. ND <10 <10 5,200 200,000 <10 Day 7 ND ND ND <10 3,700 <10 Day 14 14,000 <10 ND ND ND 4,100 <10 <10 Day 21 14,000 <10 ND ND ND <10 >10 5,000 17,000 <10 Day 28 ND ND ND

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TABLE 9 (0.035%Benzyl Alcohol/0.005% Disodium EDTA)

A. niger S. aureus C. albicans E. coli P. aeruginosa Organism Time 390,000 610,000 440,000 750,000 460,000 Inoculum per ml 20 product <10 680 100 460,000 112,000 0 Hr. ND <100 <10 290,000 <10 <10 Day 7 ND ND ND ND 4,100 <10 <10 <10 <100 Day 14 ND ND ND ND <10 <100 2,900 <10 <10 Day 21 ND ND 25 ND ND <100 <10 Day 28 2,700 <10 >10 ND ND ND ND

TABLE 10 (0.45%Benzyl Alcohol/0.005% Disodium EDTA)

|   | , |   | ١ |  |
|---|---|---|---|--|
| ٠ | ٠ | ۰ |   |  |
|   |   | Į | , |  |
|   |   |   |   |  |

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| Organism<br>Time          | A. niger | <u>C. albicans</u> | <u>E. coli</u> | <u>P. aeruginosa</u> | <u>S. aureus</u> |
|---------------------------|----------|--------------------|----------------|----------------------|------------------|
| Inoculum  per ml  product | 390,000  | 440,000            | 750,000        | 460,000              | 610,000          |
| 0 Hr.                     | 320,000  | 300                | <10            | <10                  | <10              |
|                           |          |                    | ND             | ND                   | ND               |
| Day 7                     | 260      | <10                | <10            | <10                  | <10              |
|                           |          | ND                 | ND             | ND                   | ND               |
| Day 14                    | <10      | <10                | <10            | <10                  | <10              |
|                           | ND       | ND                 | ND             | ND                   | ND               |
| Day 21                    | <10      | <10                | <10            | <10                  | <10              |
|                           | ND       | ND                 | ND             | ND                   | ND               |
| Day 28                    | <10      | <10                | <10            | <10                  | <10              |
|                           | ND       | ND                 | ND             | ND                   | ND               |

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#### Example 5

Propofol oil-in-water emulsions containing 0.45%/benzyl alcohol/0.005%

20 disodium EDTA and 0.45% benzyl alcohol/0.07% sodium benzoate were tested by the USP 23 preservative effectiveness test as described in Example 2. The results, using formulations which are 1% fat emulsions of a medium chain triglyceride oil, are given below in Tables 11 and 12 where the number reported is the number of organisms per milliliter.

TABLE 11 (0.45%Benzyl Alcohol/0.005% Disodium EDTA)

Organism C. albicans E. coli A. niger P. aeruginosa <u>S. aureus</u> Time 390,000 750,000 Inoculum 440,000 460,000 610,000 per ml product 0 Hr. 490,000 180 <10 <10 <10 ND ND ND Day 7 28,000 <10 <10 <10 <10 ND ND ND ND Day 14 <10 <10 <10 <10 <10 ND ND ND ND ND Day 21 <10 <10 <10 <10 <10 ND ND ND ND ND Day 28 <10 <10 <10 <10 <10 ND ND ND ND ND

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TABLE 12 (0.45%Benzyl Alcohol/0.07% Sodium Benzoate)

| 15 | Organism | A. niger  | C. albicans | E. coli | P. aeruginosa | S. aureus |
|----|----------|-----------|-------------|---------|---------------|-----------|
|    | Time     |           |             |         |               |           |
|    | Inoculum | 390,000 — | -440,000    | 750,000 | 460,000       | 610,000   |
|    | per ml   |           |             |         |               |           |
|    | product  |           |             |         |               |           |
| 20 | 0 Hr.    | 420,000   | 260         | <10     | 1,780         | <10       |
|    |          |           |             | ND      |               | ND        |
|    | Day 7    | 20,000    | <10         | <10     | <10           | <10       |
|    |          |           | ND          | ND      | ND            | ND        |
|    | Day 14   | <10       | <10         | <10     | <10           | <10       |
|    |          | ND        | ND          | ND      | ND            | ND        |
| :  | Day 21   | <10       | <10         | <10     | <10           | <10       |
|    |          | ND        | ND          | ND      | ND            | ND        |
| 25 | Day 28   | <10       | <10         | <10     | <10           | <10       |
|    |          | ND        | ND          | ND      | ND            | ND        |

#### **Claims**

 A sterile pharmaceutical composition comprising a propofol containing oilin-water emulsion having as an antimicrobial agent, a member selected from the group
 consisting of:

benzyl alcohol and sodium ethylene diamine tetraacetate;

benzethonium chloride; and

benzyl alcohol and sodium benzoate.

- 2. A composition according to claim 1 where the propofol is emulsified by means of a surfactant.
  - 3. A composition according to claim 1 where the surfactant is an ethoxylated ether or ester, a polypropylene polyethylene block copolymer or a phosphatide.

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- 4. A composition according to claim 1 where the surfactant is egg phosphatide.
- 5. A composition according to claim 1 where the propofol is dissolved in a water-immiscible solvent.

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- 6. A composition according to claim 5 where the solvent is soy bean oil, safflower oil, cottonseed oil, corn oil, sunflower oil, arachis oil, castor oil or olive oil.
  - 7. A sterile oil-in-water emulsion pharmaceutical composition comprising:
- 25 from 0.1 to 5.0 weight percent propofol;

from 2.0 to 30 weight percent solvent;

from 0.2 to 2.0 weight percent surfactant:

2.0 to 3.0% weight percent glycerol;

from 0.0175 to 0.9 weight percent of an antimicrobial agent selected from the 30 group consisting of:

benzyl alcohol and sodium ethylene diamine tetraacetate,

benzethonium chloride, and,

benzyl alcohol and sodium benzoate, and the balance of the composition being water.

- 8. A method inducing anesthesia comprising administration of an effective 5 amount of the composition of claim 1.
  - 9. The method of Claim 7 wherein the anesthesia is induced prior to treatment with an inhalation anesthetic.
- 10 10. The method of claim 8 whercin the composition is the sole anesthetic agent.
  - 11. A method of inducing anesthesia comprising administration of an effective amount of the composition of claim 7.

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Into one Application No PCT/US 99/24347

| 4 0: 100   |  |   |                       |
|--|--|---|-----------------------|
| A CLASSI<br>IPC 7  | FICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER A61K9/107 A61K31/05 A61K47, A61P23/00   | /10 A61K47/12   | A61K47/18             |
| According to   | o International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classi   | fication and IPC  |                       |
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| Electronic d   | ata base consulted during the International search (name of data i   | base and, where practical, search te  | ms used)              |
| C. DOCUM   | ENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT   |   |                       |
| Category °   | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the   | relevant passages   | Relevant to claim No. |
| A  | US 5 714 520 A (JONES CHRISTOPHI<br>ET AL) 3 February 1998 (1998-02-<br>cited in the application<br>column 4, line 10 - line 45<br>column 5, line 1 - line 53<br>claims; examples  | ER BUCHAN<br>-03)   | 1-11                  |
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|  |  |   |                       |
|  | ner documents are listed in the continuation of box C.   | X Patent family members a   | re fisted in annex.   |
| "A" docume<br>conside<br>"E" earlier d<br>fling d<br>"L" docume<br>which i<br>chation<br>"O" docume<br>other n | nt which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or is cited to establish the publication date of another or or other special reason (as specified) and the provided of another or or other special reason, as specified). | "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention.  "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone.  "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person sidiled in the art. |                       |
| Date of the a  | actual completion of the international search  | "&" document member of the same<br>Date of mailing of the internat  |                       |
|  | February 2000  | 02/03/2000  |                       |
| Name and m   | nailing address of the ISA  European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentiaan 2  NL - 2260 HV Rijswrijk  Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo ni,   | Authorized officer  |                       |
|  | Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016   | Epskamp, S  |                       |

## **INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

I....national application No.

PCT/US 99/24347

| Box I     | Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)  |
|-----------|--|
| This inte | emational Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:  |
| 1. X      | Claims Nos.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:  Remark: Although claim 8-11 are directed to a method of treatment of the human/animal body, the search has been carried out and based on the alleged effects of the compound/composition. |
| 2         | Claims Nos.: because they relate to parts of the international Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international Search can be carried out, specifically:   |
| з. 🗌      | Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).   |
| Box il    | Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of Item 2 of first sheet)   |
| This inte | ernational Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:  |
| 1.        | As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international Search Report covers all searchable claims.   |
| 2.        | As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.   |
| 3.        | As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:   |
| 4         | No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:  The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.            |
|           | No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.  |

#### INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

information on patent family members

Intex and Application No
PCT/US 99/24347

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